

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing apparatus comprising:

 a printing unit configured to print an image onto a continuous paper; and

5 a continuous paper transporting mechanism configured to transport the continuous paper,

 wherein the continuous paper transporting mechanism comprises:

10 a frictionally transporting section configured to frictionally transport the continuous paper;

 a paper braking section provided on an upstream side of the frictionally transporting section and configured to put brake on the transportation of the continuous paper;

15 a paper-position restricting section having a pair of rollers arranged between the frictionally transporting section and the paper braking section obliquely at a predetermined angle θ with respect to a paper transporting direction; and

20 a buffer unit provided between the paper-position restricting section and the frictionally transporting section and configured to absorb slack of the paper, and

 wherein the printing section is disposed on a downstream side of the frictionally transporting section.

25 2. The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the frictionally transporting section comprises a back

feeding unit configured to feed back the continuous paper in an opposite direction by a predetermined amount after the completion of printing,

wherein the buffer unit comprises a pushing-out member configured to push out a surface of the continuous paper by coming into contact with the surface, and

wherein the apparatus further comprises a pushing-out-amount controlling unit configured to control an amount of push out by the pushing-out member in correspondence with an amount of the feeding back by the frictionally transporting section.

3. The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the pushing-out member comprises at least one of a roller and a guide member, and is located at a position spaced apart from the continuous paper during printing.

4. The printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the frictionally transporting section comprises a pair of drive rollers by which the continuous paper is frictionally transported therebetween.

20 5. A continuous paper transporting mechanism comprising:

a frictionally transporting section configured to frictionally transport the continuous paper;

25 a paper braking section provided on an upstream side of the frictionally transporting section and configured

to put brake on the transportation of the continuous paper;

a paper-position restricting section having a pair of rollers arranged between the frictionally transporting section and the paper braking section obliquely at a 5 predetermined angle θ with respect to a paper transporting direction; and

a buffer unit provided between the paper-position restricting section and the frictionally transporting section and configured to absorb slack of the paper.

10 6. The continuous paper transporting mechanism as claimed in claim 5, wherein the frictionally transporting section comprises a pair of drive rollers by which the continuous paper is frictionally transported therebetween.